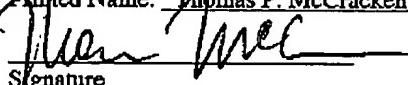


Atty Dkt No. OPP 41
PATENT*#6
Election S. Buyc
10/1/03***Certificate of Transmission:**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703) 872-9306) on 23 September 2003.

Printed Name: Thomas P. McCracken


Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In Re Application of:**

SMITH et al.

Serial No.: 09/916,176

Art Unit: 3763

Filing Date: 26 July 2001

Examiner: A. Y. Lam

Title: PARTICLE CASSETTE, METHOD AND KIT THEREFOR

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action in the above-referenced application, mailed 21 April 2003, and having a shortened one-month statutory period for response. Accordingly, a five-month extension of time to respond is requested, and the petition and fee therefor accompanies this paper.